

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-06

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: REPRESENTATION LIST

REF: MOSCOW 2281 AND PREVIOUS

1. AT APRIL 10 MEETING WITH MFA USA DIVISION CHIEF KORNIYENKO, I PRESENTED REVISED COPY OF REPRESENTATION LIST XIV, ON WHICH THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED EXIT PERMISSION HAVE BEEN DELETED, AND STRESSED OUR DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE SMALL PER-

CENTAGE OF CASES INCLUDED IN THAT LIST
-- 31 OUT OF 174 -- WHICH HAVE BEEN FAVORABLY
RESOLVED. I EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE TIME HAS COME IN RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WHEN MORE PROGRESS COULD BE ACHIEVED IN SUCH MATTERS.

2. IN REPLY, KORNIYENKO ADOPTED HARD, DOGMATIC LINE. TO MY INTRODUCTORY REMARKS ON THE REGULAR PRESENTKATION OF SUCH LISTS TO FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO AT UNGA SESSION OPENINGS, KORNIYENKO IMMEDIATELY INTERJECTED COMMENT THAT, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, GROMYKO HAD NEVER ACTUALLY ACCEPTED SUCH A LIST. I SAID THAT LISTS HAD, IN ANY EVENT, BEEN LEFT WITH MEMBERS OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION. SUBSEQUENTLY, KORNIYENKO MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. SOVIET SIDE SEES NO REASON WHY STATE DEPARTMENT SHOULD PREPARE AND TRANSMIT SUCH LISTS.

B. IN LOOKING THROUGH THE LISTS, SOVIET SIDE HAS FOUND NAMES

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OF MANY PERSONS WHO DO NOT WISH TO GO TO U. S. SOME OF THESE ARE PERSONS WHO WISH TO EMIGRATE TO THIRD COUNTRIES. OTHERS HAVE ALREADY LEFT FOR THE U. S. OR FOR THIRD COUNTRIES. STILL OTHERS DO NOT WANT TO GO ANYWHERE; PERHAPS THEIR RELATIVES WANT THEM TO EMIGRATE, BUT THEY THEMSELVES DO NOT WISH TO. IN SUCH CASES SOME ARE ACTUALLY INDIGNANT AT THE SUGGESTION THAT THEY MAY WISH TO LEAVE. FINALLY, SOME PERSONS ON THE LISTS HAVE DIED.

C. HOW CAN STATE DEPARTMENT AST SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO PERMIT TRAVEL BY PERSONS WHO DO NOT WANT TO TRAVEL?

D. FOR ABOVE REASONS, REPRESENTATION LISTS DO NOT HAVE THE APPEARANCE OF SERIOUS DOCUMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY PREPARED BY DEPARTMENT.

E. SOVIET SIDE COULD UNDERSTAND EMBASSY PASSING ON LETTERS FROM INDIVIDUAL AMERICAN CITIZENS INTERESTED IN RECEIVING NEWS ABOUT THEIR RELATIVES IN USSR, BUT NOT THE PRESENTATION OF REPRESENTATION LISTS AS MATTERS OF OFFICIAL CONCERN OF USG.

3. I REPLIED THAT LISTS DO INDEED REPRESENT SERIOUS CONCERN OF USG WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REPRESENTING INTERESTS OF ITS CITIZENS. IN EACH CASE TO OUR KNOWLEDGE AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE SENT A VYZOV TO THEIR RELATIVES IN THE USSR AND HAVE ASKED USG TO INTERVENE ON THEIR BEHALF. THIS IS A HUMANITARIAN INTEREST IN REUNITING FAMILIES, AND I ASKED THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT BE GENEROUS IN ITS APPROACH TO THIS QUESTION.

4. I POINTED OUT THAT ON THE REVISED COPY OF LIST XIV WHICH I WAS LEAVING WITH KORNIYENKO WE HAD DELETED ALL NAMES OF PERSONS WHO HAD RECEIVED VISAS OR HAD DIED. THE LIST STILL CONTAINS SOME TRAGIC CASES OF FAMILY SEPARATION. I SAID THE EMBASSY WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY ACTIONS TAKEN TO FACILITATE REUNIFICATION OF THE FAMILIES INVOLVED.
DUBS

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